

NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest
765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, www.fs.usda.gov/colville

Contact: Franklin Pemberton, 509.684.7177

March 13, 2015

Spring Prescribed Burning Starting Soon

Colville, WA – Colville National Forest Fire Managers are keeping a close eye on the weather and moisture conditions on the Colville National Forest. If moisture levels and expected smoke dispersion patterns are within Washington State smoke management standards, crews could begin the spring prescribed burning season as early as the middle of March and continue into June.

Residents and motorists along Aladdin Road north of Colville can expect to see smoke on the east side of Rogers Mountain and in the Meadow Creek drainage. Motorists on Highway 395 and residents of Chewelah can expect to see smoke in the Cottonwood Creek drainage. Motorists and residents along 395 can expect to see smoke in the Renner Lake area north of Barstow, as well as in the Summit Mountain area northeast of Orient.

Residents in the Pend Oreille Valley and those traveling up Highway 20 can expect to see smoke on the west side of the valley from Cusick, north to Lone. Crews will also be conducting burns in the Browns lake area south of Highway 20 (Tiger highway), as well as near the Ruby Creek drainage 12 miles north of Cusick, WA. Burning will occur on Cottonwood Divide, and in the Conger timber sale area, and may be visible from either side of Flowery Trail. Burning may also occur east of the Pend Oreille River in the Geophysical area near Indian Creek, 2.5 miles northeast of Furport, Washington and in the East and West branches of LeClerc creek 14 miles southeast of Lone.

Residents in Republic can expect to see smoke east of Curlew Lake, from Herron Creek Road and Tonasket Creek as well as northwest of Curlew near Vulcan Mountain. North of Republic, smoke may be visible from North Fork Trout Creek area. Smoke will also be visible north of County Highway 602 (Boulder Creek Road) and north and west of the Swan Lake area.

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Since air quality is a major consideration during prescribed fire operations, crews may suspend burning operation if conditions warrant or if smoke begins to impact local communities. In order to ensure you have the latest information on prescribed fires on the Colville National Forest please contact your local Ranger District.

Three Rivers District 255 West 11th Kettle Falls, WA 99141 509-738-7700	Newport Ranger District 315 North Warren Newport, WA 99156 509-447-7300	Sullivan Lake District 12641 Sullivan Lake Road Metaline Falls, WA 99153 509-446-7500	Republic Ranger District 650 East Delaware Avenue Republic, WA 99166 509-775-7400
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The mission of the US Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Recreational activities on our lands contribute \$14.5 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.

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